

2009 began devising a way to rebuild and protect our coastline. Shaffer, a biology professor at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, LA, and Kandlepas, an ecologist with a doctorate degree, have been growing hurricane-resistant plants, such as cypress and tupelo trees, along Louisiana's receding coast. This creates a natural barrier of healthy flora more likely to sustain vulnerable coastal habitats during strong storms. In order to reinvigorate the vegetation along Louisiana's coastline, Wetland Resources targets areas that are filled with treated sewerage and wastewater from nearby cities. These areas are nutrient rich and serve as ideal incubators for newly planted cypress and tupelo trees. These species of trees can live for hundreds of years, and their root systems grow laterally, which connect with adjacent trees to create an effective barrier from storm surges and gale force winds.

Today, Shaffer and Kandlepas are developing new ways to plant and protect their seeds. In addition to their most recent development, a biodegradable protective casing for their seedlings that allows 4,000 trees to be planted each day, Wetland Resources, LLC, has received numerous awards.

Congratulations to Wetlands Resources, LLC, of Tickfaw, LA, this week's Small Business of the Week. I look forward to seeing the ongoing impact of your innovative ideas in restoring our coastline and protecting our families and homes.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1090. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide eligibility for broadcasting facilities to receive certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3654. An act to require a report on United States strategy to combat terrorist use of social media, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3750. An act to waive the passport fees for first responders proceeding abroad to aid a foreign country suffering from a natural disaster.

H.R. 3878. An act to enhance cybersecurity information sharing and coordination at ports in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4239. An act to require intelligence community reporting on foreign fighter flows to and from terrorist safe havens abroad, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4246. An act to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill (H.R. 2297) to prevent Hezbollah and associated entities from gaining access to international financial and other institutions, and for other purposes, and agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the bill.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2820) to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 5:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1090. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide eligibility for broadcasting facilities to receive certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2297. An act to prevent Hizballah and associated entities from gaining access to international financial and other institutions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2820. An act to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3831. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the annual comment period for payment rates under Medicare Advantage.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3189. An act to amend the Federal Reserve Act to establish requirements for policy rules and blackout periods of the Federal Open Market Committee, to establish requirements for certain activities of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and to amend title 31, United States Code, to reform the manner in which the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System is audited, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3654. An act to require a report on United States strategy to combat terrorist use of social media, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3750. An act to waive the passport fees for first responders proceeding abroad to aid a foreign country suffering from a natural disaster; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3878. An act to enhance cybersecurity information sharing and coordination at ports in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4239. An act to require intelligence community reporting on foreign fighter flows to and from terrorist safe havens abroad, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 17, 2015, she

had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1090. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide eligibility for broadcasting facilities to receive certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2410. A bill to promote transparency in the oversight of cybersecurity risks at publicly traded companies; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 2411. A bill to permit the Secretary of Homeland Security to search open source information to determine if an alien is inadmissible to the United States and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2412. A bill to establish the Tule Lake National Historic Site in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2413. A bill to prohibit unfair or deceptive acts or practices relating to the prices of products and services sold online, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 2414. A bill to decrease the frequency of sports blackouts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2415. A bill to implement integrity measures to strengthen the EB-5 Regional Center Program in order to promote and reform foreign capital investment and job creation in American communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2416. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require the use of electronic visit verification systems for home health services under the Medicare program and personal care services and home health care services under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 2417. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the Indian Health Service to cover the cost of a copayment of an Indian or Alaska Native veteran receiving medical care or services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 2418. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish university labs for student-developed technology-based solutions for countering online recruitment of violent extremists; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2419. A bill to improve quality and accountability for educator preparation programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.